Opinions on Health Care

National Survey\(^1\) vs. Idaho Comparison\(^2\)

1. Comparison between National insurance coverage and Idaho insurance coverage.

**National Survey**

Are you covered by health insurance through an employer, a union, or through a plan you got on your own, or are you covered by Medicare or Medicaid? (If insured)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Employer/Union/Self</th>
<th>Medicare/Medicaid</th>
<th>Both (vol.)</th>
<th>DK/NA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2/18-19/97</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/23-27/07</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Do you have some form of health insurance or health care coverage, or not?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>DK/NA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7/19-21/98</td>
<td>87</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7/13-14/99 CBS</td>
<td>87</td>
<td>13</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7/13-16/00</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>11</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/27-10/1/00</td>
<td>87</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/20-25/06</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>12</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/23-27/07</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>11</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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\(^2\) Idaho results taken from the 18\(^{th}\) Annual Public Policy Survey, Boise State University.
Idaho Survey

Statewide Health/Medical Insurance Coverage

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region Code Used in Postratification</th>
<th>Region 3</th>
<th>Region 2</th>
<th>Region 3</th>
<th>Region 4</th>
<th>Region 5</th>
<th>Region 6</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Private Insurer</td>
<td>52.1%</td>
<td>52.6%</td>
<td>50.2%</td>
<td>61.8%</td>
<td>49.6%</td>
<td>54.1%</td>
<td>52.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medicaid</td>
<td>4.0%</td>
<td>1.4%</td>
<td>1.5%</td>
<td>2.5%</td>
<td>2.4%</td>
<td>1.9%</td>
<td>1.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medicare</td>
<td>5.4%</td>
<td>7.4%</td>
<td>4.8%</td>
<td>6.5%</td>
<td>4.9%</td>
<td>3.5%</td>
<td>5.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State of Idaho’s Workers’ Compensation</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>3.5%</td>
<td>1.2%</td>
<td>2.2%</td>
<td>2.3%</td>
<td>2.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Veterans Benefits</td>
<td>5.4%</td>
<td>7.2%</td>
<td>1.3%</td>
<td>1.2%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>4.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other type/Multiple</td>
<td>.8%</td>
<td>14.7%</td>
<td>7.9%</td>
<td>8.9%</td>
<td>12.6%</td>
<td>14.5%</td>
<td>8.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NO INSURANCE</td>
<td>15.1%</td>
<td>10.4%</td>
<td>10.9%</td>
<td>6.4%</td>
<td>10.5%</td>
<td>9.4%</td>
<td>10.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medicare and Private Combination</td>
<td>15.6%</td>
<td>12.1%</td>
<td>13.2%</td>
<td>12.4%</td>
<td>15.2%</td>
<td>11.4%</td>
<td>13.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medicare and Medicaid Combination</td>
<td>1.5%</td>
<td>1.4%</td>
<td>.7%</td>
<td>2.8%</td>
<td>1.1%</td>
<td>1.2%</td>
<td>1.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Comparison

Idahoans hold some variety of health coverage at the same rate as those on a national level. Roughly 11% of U.S. citizens don’t have any sort of health coverage as do; those without health coverage in Idaho are nearly identical at a 10.7% non-coverage rate.
Idaho uses private health insurers at a lower rate than the national average. On average, 72% of U.S. citizens use a private form of insurance such as company, union or self coverage health insurance. Idaho citizens used private health coverage at a rate of 52%. Idaho uses Medicaid or Medicare at a rate of 8.3% while U.S. citizens have a 16% rating. Finally, a combination of Medicaid/Medicare and private health insurance is held by 11% of U.S. citizens. Idaho citizens use the same combination at a rate of 13.4%.  

2. Attitudes toward providing insurance for children.

**National**

Currently, a government program provides health insurance for some children in low and moderate income families. Would you favor or oppose expanding this program to include ALL uninsured children?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Favor</th>
<th>Oppose</th>
<th>DK/NA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2/23-27/07</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If answered “FAVOR,” What if that meant you would have to pay more in taxes? Then, would you favor or oppose expanding the government program to include all uninsured children?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Favor</th>
<th>Oppose</th>
<th>DK/NA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2/23-27/07</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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3 Some forms of health coverage such as Veterans Benefits, Workers Compensation, and others were not polled at the national level.
Idaho

Which group should be the highest priority for receiving public assistance to pay for health insurance?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>N= 1,053,659</th>
<th>Region Code Used in Poststratification - CALCULATED</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Region 1</td>
<td>Region 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children (ages 0-19) in low income families</td>
<td>55.7%</td>
<td>67.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Small businesses of 10 or fewer employees</td>
<td>7.5%</td>
<td>7.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Low income adults (ages 19-64) with chronic diseases such as heart disease, diabetes, mental illness</td>
<td>13.6%</td>
<td>10.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Healthy low income adults who don't have insurance</td>
<td>5.4%</td>
<td>4.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OTHER (SPECIFY)</td>
<td>14.5%</td>
<td>3.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DON'T KNOW</td>
<td>2.3%</td>
<td>5.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REFUSED</td>
<td>.9%</td>
<td>1.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Priority for Receiving Health Care

L.I. Children (ages 0-19) 59%

Small businesses 7%

L.I. Adults (ages 19-64) w/chronic diseases 15%

Healthy adults w/o insurance 5%

DON'T KNOW 5%

OTHER 8%
Comparison

Polls taken at the national and state level reflect a positive attitude towards providing children in low income families with health care. **Fifty nine percent** of Idahoans believe low income children should receive the most public assistance for health costs. On a national level, **84%** of Americans said they favor expanding a health care program to assist all underprivileged children. **Sixty seven percent** of those said they would support the program even if it meant paying more income taxes.

3. Most important national and state issues.

Nation

Which of these domestic policies is most important for the President and Congress to concentrate on right now: 1. reducing taxes, 2. making health insurance available to all Americans, 3. strengthening immigration laws, or 4. promoting traditional values?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Reducing taxes</th>
<th>Health insurance for all</th>
<th>Immigration laws</th>
<th>Traditional values</th>
<th>DK/NA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2/23-27/07</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Idaho

What is the single most important issue facing Idaho today?

Comparison

While the Idaho survey offers a more broad selection of issues than the national survey, attitudes towards healthcare appear to be nonchalant. Only 2% believe it is the most important issue facing Idaho. On the other hand, from a national perspective it is the most important issue facing the nation. **Fifty five percent** of those polled believed providing health care for all was the most important issue facing the nation. (Note: The Idaho survey asks citizens an open-ended question. The national poll provided a response set from which respondents chose one best answer.)
Health Insurance

Idaho Statewide - Coverage

- Private Insurer: 57%
- Medicare & Private Combination: 14%
- Medicare & Medicaid Combination: 2%
- Medicaid: 2%
- Medicare: 5%
- Veterans Benefits: 5%
- ID Workers' Compensation: 2%
- Other Type / Multiple: 3%
- NO INSURANCE: 11%
Health Insurance

Region 1 - Panhandle - Coverage

- NO INSURANCE: 15%
- Other Type / Multiple: 3%
- Veterans Benefits: 5%
- ID Workers' Compensation: 2%
- Medicare: 5%
- Medicaid: 4%
- Medicare & Private Combination: 14%
- Medicare & Medicaid Combination: 2%
- Private Insurer: 57%
Health Insurance

Region 3 - South West - Coverage

- **Private Insurer**: 54%
- **NO INSURANCE**: 11%
- **Other Type /Multiple**: 3%
- **Veterans Benefits**: 8%
- **ID Workers' Compensation**: 4%
- **Medicare & Medicaid Combination**: 1%
- **Medicare & Private Combination**: 12%
- **Medicaid**: 5%
- **Medicare**: 2%

**Summary**

- Private insurance coverage is the most prevalent with 54%.
- NO INSURANCE accounts for 11% of the population.
- Veterans benefits, although a small portion, cover 8%.
- Other types of insurance or multiple insurance plans cover 3%.
- Medicare and Medicaid combination coverage is 1%.
- Medicare and private combination coverage is 12%.
- Medicare coverage alone is 2% and Medicaid coverage alone is 5%.
Health Insurance

Region 4 - South Central - Coverage

Private Insurer: 69%

- Medicare & Private Combination: 13%
- Medicare & Medicaid Combination: 5%
- Medicare: 6%
- Medicaid: 0%
- NO INSURANCE: 6%
- Other Type/Multiple: 0%
- Veterans Benefits: 0%
- ID Workers' Compensation: 1%
- Veterans Benefits: 0%
- Medicaid: 0%
- Medicare: 6%
Health Insurance

Region 5 - South East - Coverage

- Medicare & Private Combination: 17%
- Medicare & Medicaid Combination: 4%
- NO INSURANCE: 11%
- Private Insurer: 50%
- Other Type / Multiple: 6%
- Veterans Benefits: 3%
- ID Workers' Compensation: 2%
- Medicare: 5%
- Medicaid: 2%
Health Insurance

Region 6 - Eastern - Coverage

- Private Insurer: 65%
- Medicare & Private Combination: 11%
- Medicare & Medicaid Combination: 1%
- NO INSURANCE: 9%
- Other Type / Multiple: 5%
- Veterans Benefits: 1%
- ID Workers' Compensation: 2%
- Medicare: 4%
- Medicaid: 2%

Medicare & Medicaid Combination 1%
Private Insurer 65%
Health Insurance

Statewide - Universal Coverage

- Strongly disagree: 26%
- Somewhat disagree: 17%
- Neither agree nor disagree: 7%
- Somewhat agree: 21%
- Strongly agree: 27%
- Don't Know/Refused: 2%
Health Insurance

Region 1 - Panhandle - Universal Coverage

Strongly disagree: 33%
Somewhat disagree: 15%
Neither agree nor disagree: 4%
Somewhat agree: 17%
Strongly agree: 26%
Don't Know/Refused: 5%
Health Insurance

Region 2 - North Central - Universal Coverage

- Strongly disagree: 23%
- Somewhat disagree: 25%
- Don't Know /Refused: 3%
- Neither agree nor disagree: 7%
- Somewhat agree: 21%
- Strongly agree: 20%
Health Insurance

Region 3 - Southwest - Universal Coverage

- Strongly disagree: 24%
- Somewhat disagree: 16%
- Neither agree nor disagree: 9%
- Somewhat agree: 23%
- Strongly agree: 28%
Health Insurance

Region 5 - South East - Universal Coverage

- Strongly agree: 32%
- Somewhat agree: 22%
- Somewhat disagree: 20%
- Strongly disagree: 21%
- Neither agree nor disagree: 4%
- Don't Know / Refused: 1%
Region 6 - Eastern - Universal Coverage

- Strongly disagree: 25%
- Somewhat disagree: 21%
- Neither agree nor disagree: 5%
- Somewhat agree: 22%
- Strongly agree: 23%
- Don't Know/Refused: 4%
Health Insurance

Statewide - Priority for Public Funding

- Healthy low income adults who don't have insurance: 5%
- Low income adults (ages 19-64) with chronic diseases such as heart disease, diabetes, mental illness: 15%
- Small businesses of 10 or fewer employees: 7%
- Other: 4%
- Don't Know/Refused: 6%
- All of the above: 4%
- Children (ages 0-19) in low income families: 60%
Health Insurance

Region 1 - Panhandle - Priority for Public Funding

- Children (ages 0-19) in low income families: 57%
- Small businesses of 10 or fewer employees: 8%
- Healthy low income adults who don't have insurance: 5%
- Low income adults (ages 19-64) with chronic diseases such as heart disease, diabetes, mental illness: 14%
- Don't Know/Refused: 3%
- Other: 6%
- All of the above: 6%
Health Insurance

Region 2 - North Central - Priority for Public Funding

- Children (ages 0-19) in low income families: 68%
- Healthy low income adults who don't have insurance: 4%
- Low income adults (ages 19-64) with chronic diseases such as heart disease, diabetes, mental illness: 10%
- Small businesses of 10 or fewer employees: 8%
- Don't Know/Refused: 7%
- Other: 2%
- All of the above: 2%
Health Insurance

Region 3 - Southwest - Priority for Public Funding

- Children (ages 0-19) in low income families: 61%
- Low income adults (ages 19-64) with chronic diseases such as heart disease, diabetes, mental illness: 13%
- Small businesses of 10 or fewer employees: 9%
- Healthy low income adults who don't have insurance: 5%
- Other: 2%
- Don't Know/Refused: 6%
- All of the above: 4%

Total: 100%
Health Insurance

Region 4 - South Central - Priority for Public Funding

Healthy low income adults who don't have insurance: 4%

Low income adults (ages 19-64) with chronic diseases such as heart disease, diabetes, mental illness: 21%

ALL OF THE ABOVE: 4%

Don't Know/Refused: 5%

OTHER: 4%

Small businesses of 10 or fewer employees: 5%

Children (ages 0-19) in low income families: 57%

ALL OF THE ABOVE: 4%
Health Insurance

Region 5 - South East - Priority for Public Funding

Children (ages 0-19) in low income families 71%

Healthy low income adults who don't have insurance 4%

Low income adults (ages 19-64) with chronic diseases such as heart disease, diabetes, mental illness 19%

Small businesses of 10 or fewer employees 3%

Don't Know/Refused 5%

ALL OF THE ABOVE 4%

OTHER 4%
Health Insurance

Region 6 - Eastern - Priority for Public Funding

- Children (ages 0-19) in low income families: 72%
- Healthy low income adults who don't have insurance: 6%
- Low income adults (ages 19-64) with chronic diseases such as heart disease, diabetes, mental illness: 18%
- Don't Know/Refused: 5%
- ALL OF THE ABOVE: 4%
- OTHER: 4%
- Small businesses of 10 or fewer employees: 2%